

CLAIMS:

1. A stand for mail sorting or other applications, which is of modular construction and includes one or more upright tubular frame members and a shelving system including one or more shelves each connectable to the frame member(s) by one or more bracket parts enabling the shelves to be mounted to and removed from the upright frame member(s) from one side or from the front of the frame members; wherein each shelf includes a tubular shelf frame carried by one or more of said bracket parts for supporting a tray, bin, basket or similar.

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2. A stand according to claim 1 wherein the stand comprises two or more upright tubular frame members connected together at an upper part of the frame members.

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3. A stand according to claim 2 wherein the stand comprises two upright tubular frame members and a connection between an upper part of the frame members, which are formed from a single length of tubular material in an inverted U shape.

4. A stand according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the shelf frame(s) and bracket part(s) are separate components which can be fitted together.

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5. A stand according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said tubular shelf frame includes parallel rear and front frame parts for supporting a separately formed tray, bin, basket or similar.

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6. A stand according to claim 5 wherein the shelf frame is formed by a single length of tubular material formed into an open rectangular shape.

7. A stand according to claim 5 wherein the bracket part(s) which connect the shelf frame to the frame member(s) are carried by the rear shelf frame part.

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8. A stand for mail sorting or other applications, which is of modular construction and includes one or more upright tubular frame members and a shelving system

including one or more shelves each connectable to the frame member(s) by one or more bracket parts enabling the shelves to be mounted to and removed from the upright frame member(s) from one side or from the front of the frame members; wherein one or more of the shelves each carry on the shelf frame thereof a tray, bin, basket or similar comprising a base and a rear wall; wherein the tray, bin, basket or similar comprises two or more similar segments which connect together.

5        9. A stand according to claim 8 wherein one or more formations on the back of the rear wall of the tray, bin, basket or similar clip-connect to the rear shelf frame part and  
10      the underside of the base of the tray, bin, basket or similar is supported by the front shelf frame part.

15      10. A stand according to any one of claims 8 to 9 including partitions for dividing the tray, bin, basket or similar across the stand.

11. A stand according to claim 10 wherein the tray, bin, basket or similar is formed with a plurality of apertures spaced along its length into which said partitions may be engaged to connect the partitions to the tray, bin, basket or similar.

20      12. A stand for mail sorting or other applications, which is of modular construction and includes one or more upright tubular frame members and a shelving system including one or more shelves each connectable to the frame member(s) by one or more bracket parts enabling the shelves to be mounted to and removed from the upright frame member(s) from one side of the frame; wherein the bracket part(s) include an entry on  
25      one side enabling the one or more shelves to be mounted to and removed from the upright frame members from one side of the upright frame members.

13. A stand according to claim 12 wherein the bracket parts include a hollow interior defined between an upper portion for engaging an upright frame member from  
30      the rear and a lower portion for engaging the upright frame member from the front when a shelf is mounted to the upright member(s), and said entry in the form of a longitudinally extending aperture on one side of the bracket part, so that the shelves

may be mounted to the upright frame member(s) by tilting a front of a shelf upwardly relative to it's normal position when mounted to the upright frame member(s), moving the shelf on to the upright member(s) from one side so that the tubular upright member(s) pass through the entry passage into the bracket(s), and then dropping the  
5 front of the shelf downwardly, to engage the shelf in position on the upright frame member(s) (and the reverse for removal).

14. A stand according to claim 13 wherein the upright frame member(s) include a series of apertures or indentations along the length(s) thereof into which a protrusion  
10 from the interior of the bracket part(s) may locate when shelves are mounted to the upright frame members.

15. A stand according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stand is a mail sorting stand, including two upright tubular frame members, wherein each shelf  
15 includes a lightweight tubular shelf frame and wherein the upright frame members and shelf frames are formed from lightweight metal tube, and also including one or more tray(s), bin(s), basket(s) or similar carried by the shelf frames.

16. A mail sorting stand according to claim 15 wherein the bracket parts and the  
20 tray, bin, basket or similar are formed from a plastic material.

17. A support part or bracket for supporting an item from an upright member, including a hollow interior defined between an upper portion for engaging the upright member from a rear and a lower portion for engaging the upright member from a front  
25 when the item is mounted to the upright member, and an entry in the form of a longitudinally extending aperture on one side of the support part, so that the item may be mounted to the upright member by tilting the support part upwardly from it's normal mounted position, moving the support part on to the upright member from one side so that the tubular upright member passes through the entry passage into the support part,  
30 and then tilting the item downwardly, to engage the item in position on the upright member (and the reverse for removal).

18. A tray, bin, basket or similar for use in a stand for mail sorting or other applications, the tray, bin, basket or similar including two or more similar segments which are interconnected, each segment including a base and a rear wall.
- 5    19. A tray, bin, basket or similar according to claim 18, wherein each adjacent pair of segments are interconnected by a protruding part on a side of a first one of the adjacent segments which engages into a corresponding recess on a side of a second one of the adjacent segments.
- 10    20. A tray, bin, basket or similar according to claim 19 wherein each segment includes a protruding part on one side and a corresponding recess on the other side.
- 15    21. A segment for use in a tray, bin, basket or similar according to any of claims 18 to 20, the segment including a base and a rear wall, a protruding part on one side and a corresponding recess on the other side.
- 20    22. A method of constructing a stand according to claim 12, the method including mounting the shelf to the upright frame members from one side of the upright frame members.
- 25    23. A method according to claim 22 wherein the mounting of the shelf to the upright frame members includes the steps of:  
            tilting the bracket upwardly so that the longitudinally extending aperture on the side of the bracket part aligns with the side of the upright frame member;  
            moving the bracket on to the upright frame member from one side so that the tubular upright frame member passes through the entry passage in the bracket; and  
            tilting the bracket downwardly so that the lower portion of the bracket and the upper portion of the bracket engage the shelf in position on the upright frame member.
- 30    24. A method of deconstructing a stand according to claim 12, the method including removing the shelf from the upright frame members from one side of the upright frame members.

25. A method according to claim 24 wherein the removing of the shelf from the upright frame members includes the steps of:

- tilting the bracket upwardly so that the longitudinally extending aperture on the  
5 side of the bracket part aligns with the side of the upright frame member;  
moving the bracket away from the upright frame member from one side so that  
the tubular upright frame member passes through the entry passage in the bracket.